GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1263
ANSWERED ON:30.11.2005
MORTALITY RATE OF CHILDREN
Kushwaha Shri Narendra Kumar;Munshiram Shri ;Patle Shri Shishupal Natthu;Rawat Shri Ashok Kumar;Shiwankar Shri Maha Deo Rao

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the percentage of mortality rate (children between below 5 years of age in India is highest in the world as published by `Securing Rights` which prepared a report on Millennium Development Targets as reported in the Hindi daily Rashtriya Sahara dated September 19, 2005;

(b) if so, the facts of the matter reported therein; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) and (b) The World Health Organization have published the `World Health Report 2005` wherein details of under five mortality rate for various countries have been published. According to this report under five mortality rate for India was 87 per thousand live births in 2003. 47 countries have under five mortality higher than India. The details of the Report have been published in the daily Rashtriya Sahara dated 19.9.2005.

(c) Under the Reproductive Child Health Programme (RCH) being implemented in all States of the country, various interventions for reducing infant & child mortality and morbidity in children are being implemented. These include immunization against six vaccine preventable diseases, control of death due to diarrhoea and control of deaths due to acute respiratory infections. Health Care Workers have been trained in the diagnoses and management of pneumonia and diarrhoea. This is supplemented by the supply of Tab. Pediatric Cotri-maxazole for treatment of pneumonia and ORS (Oral Rehydration Solution) for treatment of diarrahoea to the Health Workers in the Kit-A supplied to them under the RCH Programme. Essential New Born Care and promotion of exclusive breastfeeding and appropriate complementary feeding practices are also promoted in the community through Health Care Workers.